OKAY, I'M BACK FROM VACATION, AND PART OF ME ALREADY MISSES IT BUT NOTE THE EXTREMEME LACK OF CIVILIZATION THAT I DON'T MISS ... ENJOY THE RELEASES
Cat Chan Scans
REMEMBER TO SUPPORT THE MANGAKA AND BUY YOUR COPY TOO!!!
DO NOT SHARE OUTSIDE OF THIS WITHOUT PERMISSION

Soul Rescue™

1

AYA KANNO

TOKYOPOP®

Vol. 1

By Aya Kanno

TOKYOPOP

HAMBURG // LONDON // LOS ANGELES // TOKYO

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IF LIVING A LIFE OF LOVE AND MERCY...

DAMMIT!

LET GO OF ME!

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!

...IS WHAT AN ANGEL'S ALL ABOUT... THEN AM I...

I'M NOT SURPRISED. HE MAY BE THE STRONGEST SOLDIER IN HEAVEN.

HEY, DID YOU HEAR?

THAT INFAMOUS ROGUE ANGEL FINALLY GOT ROPED.

YOU'VE USED ME THIS FAR

HOW CAN YOU FIRE ME NOW?! I JUST GOT ASSIGNED TO THIS WAR AGAINST THE DEVILS!

...EVEN "QUALIFIED TO BE AN ANGEL," GOD?

FINE! SO WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?!

...BUT HE WAS CAUSING SO MUCH DAMAGE. HE EVEN ENDANGERED HIS OWN MEN.

SR

THE CHARGES THAT HAVE BEEN BROUGHT AGAINST YOU INCLUDE
INSUBORDI-NATION, IGNORING ORDERS FROM YOUR SUPERIOR OFFICERS DURING THE BATTLE AGAINST THE DEVILS
ENDANGERING YOUR FELLOW TROOPS WITH RECKLESS BEHAVIOR
AND UNNECESSARY DAMAGE TO ACCOMPANYING STRUCTURES AND PROPERTY.

IT IS BECAUSE OF THIS THAT I HAVE FOUGHT MY WHOLE LIFE AND NOW I'VE REALIZED THAT ALL I KNOW IS HOW TO FIGHT
DESPITE THE DEFENDANT'S MERITORIOUS SERVICES UP TO NOW...
MEAN-ING THAT...
. THIS BEHAVIOR IS UNPARDON-ABLE
I'M SUCH A DEFECTIVE PRODUCT THAT EVEN GOD HIMSELF IS SURPRISED
YOUR SENTENCE IS...
EVER SINCE I WAS BORN, I HAVE NEVER BEEN NORMAL
I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN BRIMMING WITH A "POWER." A POWER THAT IS UNMATCHED BY OTHER ANGELS
ALSO, EXERTING INAPPROPRIATE AND UNWARRANTED FORCE AS AN ANGEL

...HUMANITY MUST RECLAIM ITS LOST GLORY AND THUS CREATE A NEW HISTORY FOR ITSELF.
BUT NOW, AFTER MUCH TIME HAS PASSED
...A GREAT WAR BRINGS THE WORLD TO ITS KNEES.
IN THE DISTANT FUTURE

MEANWHILE, WATCHING OVER THE WORLD IN THE CLOUDS ABOVE...

.....
THAT IS SOMETHING YOU MUST DISCOVER ON YOUR OWN.
RENJI.
WELL, WHAT PART OF MY BODY IS IT?
I CANNOT TELL YOU.
WHA ...?
BUT THERE IS SOME PROFOUND QUALITY THAT YOU LACK.
RENJI.
YES, THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT YOU ARE THE STRONGEST ANGEL IN HEAVEN.
WHAT?!
WHAT? YOU CAN'T EXPECT ME TO DO THIS ME...SAVING PEOPLE?!
I MEAN, WHEN IT COMES TO FIGHTING, I KNOW ALL THAT THERE IS TO KNOW.
HOW TO BRING DOWN THE BAD GUYS AND ALL THAT
SOME-THING I LACK...?
BUT DO NOT WORRY.
...THEN THE POWER OF SOUL RESCUE WILL BE YOURS.
YOU MUST SEEK IT OUT YOURSELF.
FOR WHEN YOU FIND IT...

...BANISH-MENT!
HOWEVER, YOU MAY BE ALLOWED TO RETURN ON THE FOLLOWING CONDITION--YOU MUST RESCUE 10,000 HUMANS.
.....
Sent to Earth?
I REFUSE!
IT'S SIMPLE. DO YOU BEST, AND THEN I WILL ALLOW YOU TO RETURN TO YOUR FORMER GLORY. ♡
YOU ASS-HOLE! AFTER ALL I'VE DONE FOR YOU!
Asshole? What's that?
I DON'T DESERVE THIS!
JUST WHAT KIND OF PUNISHMENT IS THAT?!
IT'S NO SUBSTITUTE, THAT'S FOR SURE, BUT ...
Hey! How can you do this to me?
Enraged
IT WOULD BE MUCH TOO POTENT FOR EARTH.
ALSO, WE'LL NEED YOUR POWER TO BE DAMPENED.
SOUL RESCUE?!
THIS POWER IS CALLED "SOUL RESCUE."
THE ABILITY TO HEAL DAMAGE TO BOTH THE "HEART" AND "BODY" AND TO RESCUE THOSE WHO HAVE LOST THEIR WAY.
...I WILL BESTOW UPON ONE PART OF YOUR BODY

IT JUST KEEPS GOING ON AND ON...
THIS CAN'T BE FOR REAL...
Earth clothes
RENJI.
WHEN YOU WEAR THESE GLASSES, THE SOULS THAT ARE IN NEED OF RESCUE WILL BE REVEALED, SHROUDED IN A BLACK SHADOW.
Divine Item
OF COURSE.
YOU JUST WANT TO GO HOME YOURSELF.
GOOD LUCK!
.....
AW, SCREW IT ALL!
THE SOONER WE SETTLE THIS, THE SOONER WE CAN RETURN HOME!
ONLY BY ACHIEVING YOUR MISSION QUICKLY, CAN WE RETURN HOME QUICKLY.
SO I....
...WANT TO CONFIRM THAT HUNCH.
Earth

UWAAH!
HEY
Good luck!
OKAY THEN.
!!
HAVE A NICE TRIP! ♡
ウフ...
YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING ME!
GOD!!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT.
IT IS UNHEARD OF FOR YOU TO PERSONALLY DELIVER JUDGMENT, GOD.
THE THING IS, I..
I FEEL..
A TREMENDOUS POTENTIAL FROM THAT KID
?
I'LL BE SENDING THE MOST CONSUMMATE SUPERVIGOR TO ACCOMPANY YOU
GRAB
YESSIR
I'M COUNTING ON YOU, KAITO.
!

SR

Hello and nice to meet you. This is Aya Kanno. And this is my tankobon! Uwaaah— Well, this is nice. I mean, I'm ecstatic over this! And it's all thanks to you! That's right, you reading this right now! Have I done well not to betray all your expectations? I'd hope you enjoy this even a little bit. And that's the truth. ☺

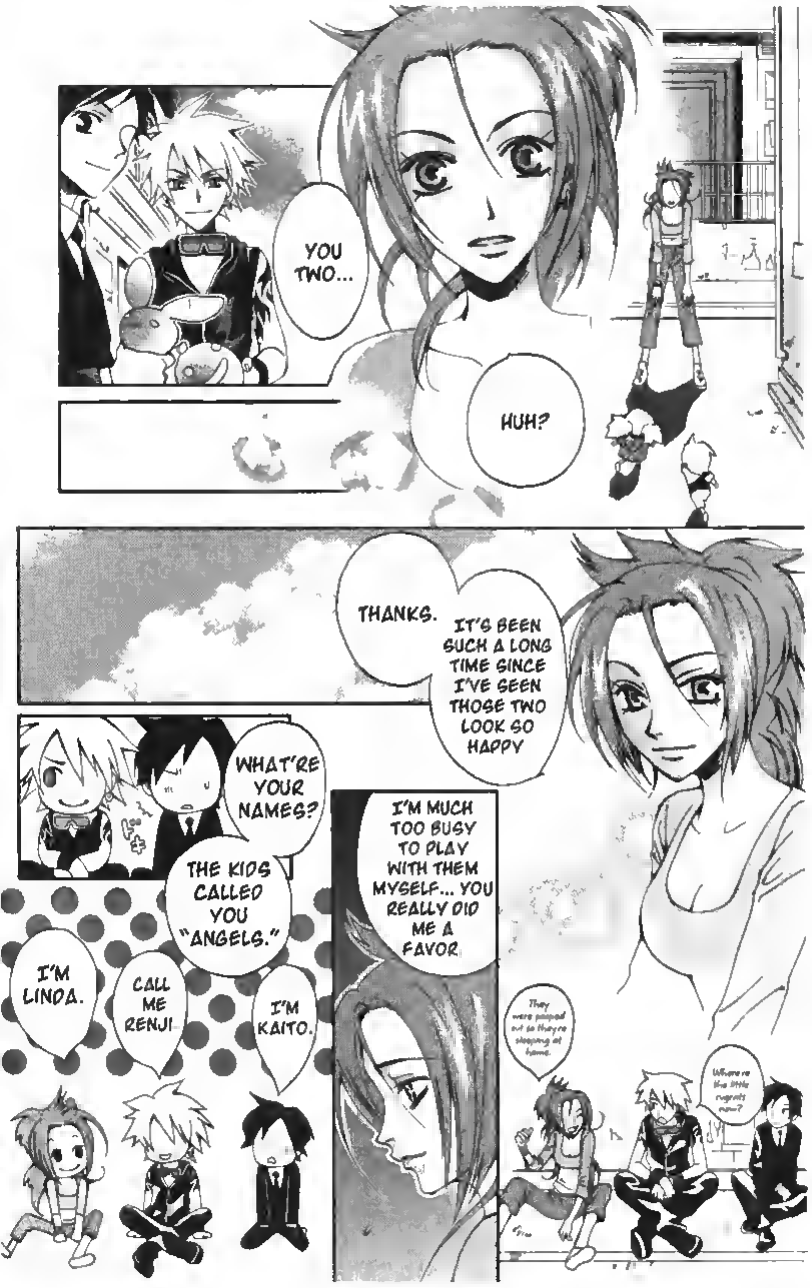
At any rate, I'm feeling the sharp sting of my inadequacy as I write. Sure I've got the story down, but the illustrations! They are too crappy. I'm working on it, though...

The Free City of Siren
HOTEL
SHEESH, THERE'S NOTHING BUT A BUNCH OF PEACEFUL, BORING PEOPLE...
PFFT PEOPLE IN NEED OF SAVING, MY ASS
COULD YOU TRY TO WALK A LITTLE MORE NATURALLY?!
HEY, DUMBASS, WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOING--
I AM WATCHING WHERE I'M GOING, JERK!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME THAT!

NOW, TO MAKE SURE ...
?
YOU'RE SCARING THEM
YO! KIDS!
...
YOU TWO LOOKED LONELY SO...
Waidda-minute. Re-
.. WE CAME DOWN FROM HEAVEN TO PLAY WITH YOU
Angels
WH-WHO ARE YOU GUYS?
...
YEAH, WHO?
!!
WE'RE ANGELS.

YOU SURE THESE GOGGLES AREN'T BROKEN OR SOMETHING?
SHE SEEMS LIKE JUST A REGULAR PERSON.
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
WHAT COULD BE THE INJURY OR DISTRESS THAT I HAVE TO RESCUE HER FROM?
SISTER!
LUNCH IS READY
SHE MUST BE CONCEALING IT SOMEWHERE.
GO GO BACK TO YOUR ROOMS, OKAY?
Good
OKAY!
...
HM?
"IF YOU WANT TO SOLVE A PROBLEM, YOU FIRST HAVE TO GET TO THE ROOT OF IT."

HERE YOU GO!
SORRY ABOUT -E WAIT
OH YOU NAUGHTY BOY YOU KNOW I DON'T GIVE SERVICE ON THE SIDE
AREN'T YOU A CUTIE
WHY DON'T YOU JOIN US? ♡


YOU TWO...
HUH?
THANKS.
IT'S BEEN SUCH A LONG TIME SINCE I'VE SEEN THOSE TWO LOOK SO HAPPY
I'M MUCH TOO BUSY TO PLAY WITH THEM MYSELF... YOU REALLY DID ME A FAVOR.
WHAT'RE YOUR NAMES?
THE KIDS CALLED YOU "ANGELS."
I'M LINDA.
CALL ME RENJI.
I'M KAITO.
They were passed out so they're sleeping at home.
Where're the little rugrats now?

.....
YUP.
WE MOVE A LOT SO IT'S HARD TO MAKE FRIENDS.
AND OUR BIG SISTER'S TOO BUSY TO PLAY WITH US.
SO, DO YOU TWO...
...ALWAYS PLAY BY YOURSELVES?
Kokoro
SISTER!
Koron
KOKORO!
KORON!
WE WUV HER!
BUT I LOVE MY SISTER!

YEAH.
WHAT GIVES?
HM?
SHE'S DEFINITELY HIDING SOMETHING FROM US.
BY THE WAY..
WHENEVER I HEARD ABOUT RENJI, THE SWORD OF GOD IT WAS ALWAYS "THE GUY WHO ONLY KNOWS HOW TO FIGHT."
"ENTIRELY UNSTOPPABLE ONCE ANGERED."
IT SEEMS THAT...
...I HAD THE WRONG IMPRESSION OF YOU.
WHEN I WAS WATCHING YOU PLAY WITH THOSE KIDS...
...I REALIZED THAT YOU'RE ACTUALLY NOT ONLY A CRUEL ANGEL.
YOU'RE PROBABLY THE ONLY ONE WHO ACTUALLY COULD CHALLENGE ME
WELL, THAT'S WHY I'M HERE
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY?
"THE SAVAGE AND INSOLENT ANGEL THAT'S ANYTHING BUT AN ANGEL"
YOU'RE THE FAMOUS ONE.
KAITO, THE "EYE OF GOD".
WHETHER HEART, TECHNIQUE, OR PHYSIQUE YOU'VE STILL GOT THE MOST PERFECT ELITE AMONGST THE ELITE KAITO

SORRY, SWEETIE.
I JUST GOT HERE MYSELF
I ONLY RECENTLY FOUND A JOB AND AN APARTMENT
I'm renting the place above the restaurant
ARE YOU FLIRTING WITH ME?
SOMETHING LIKE THAT
WELL ...
ARE YOU GUYS TRAVELERS?
WE'RE NOT VERY FAMILIAR WITH THIS TOWN SO ..
WOULD YOU MIND GIVING US A TOUR?
IS IT JUST YOU THREE SIBLINGS? WHAT ABOUT YOUR FAMILY?
SEEMS LIKE YOU GUYS MOVE AROUND A LOT.
?!
I MEAN ...
WHAT'S IT TO YOU?
HUH?
HOW ..
...DO YOU...
GASP
JUST FORGET ABOUT IT.

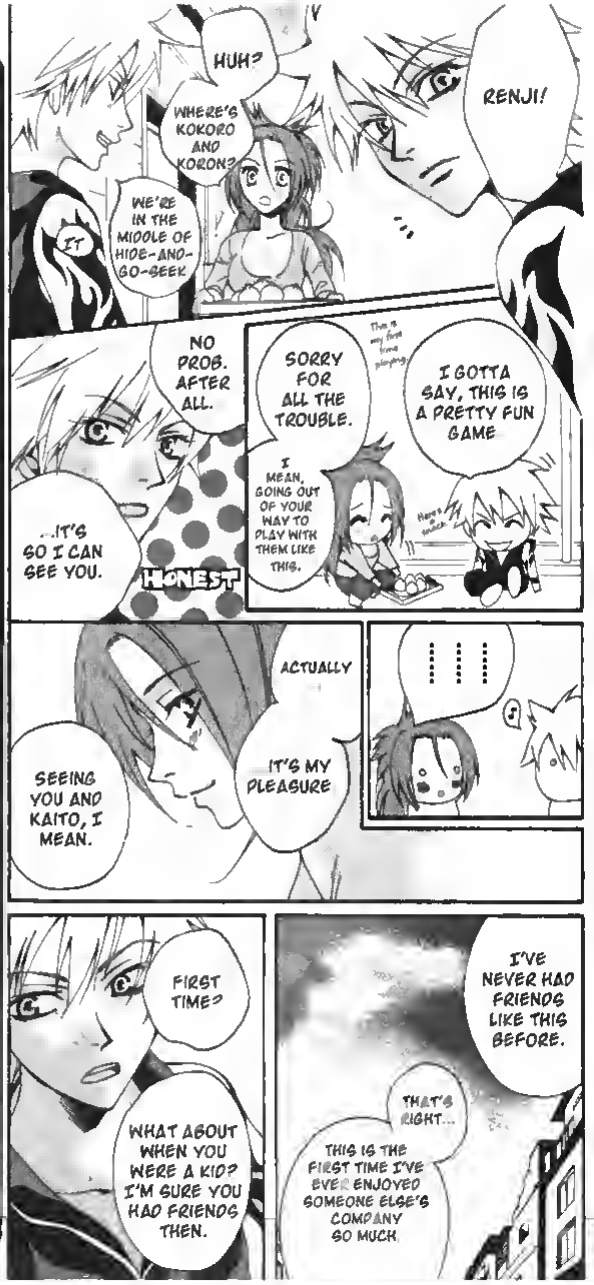
SR

People sometimes ask this in their letters to me, so here's the answer. I first started drawing manga when I was in third grade. I think it was about that time, yes. I've always loved drawing. I think it was in sixth grade that I actually started penning my drawings in properly. I would basically serialize ( ) my stories on notebook paper and written in pencil, and show them to my friends. God, I was so dumb! Uuh, now I'm going to borrow this little space to give a message to my friends from back then. Please return those manga notebooks I gave you! I'm serious! They serve as the greatest embarrassment of my life! (sniffle)

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

About Chapter 1
I'm actually very bad at drawing women and children... Even so, my readers were quite taken by the three characters below so I'm very pleased by that ☺

Take care!


RENJI!
HUH?
WHERE'S KOKORO AND KORON?
WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF HIDE-AND-GO-SEEK
IT
NO PROB. AFTER ALL.
SORRY FOR ALL THE TROUBLE.
I MEAN, GOING OUT OF YOUR WAY TO PLAY WITH THEM LIKE THIS.
This is my first time playing.
I GOTTA SAY, THIS IS A PRETTY FUN GAME
...IT'S SO I CAN SEE YOU.
HONEST
ACTUALLY
SEEING YOU AND KAITO, I MEAN.
IT'S MY PLEASURE
FIRST TIME?
WHAT ABOUT WHEN YOU WERE A KID? I'M SURE YOU HAD FRIENDS THEN.
I'VE NEVER HAD FRIENDS LIKE THIS BEFORE.
THAT'S RIGHT...
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER ENJOYED SOMEONE ELSE'S COMPANY SO MUCH.

EVEN THOUGH ANGELS ARE SUPPOSED TO HELP PEOPLE...
...ALL I CAN DO IS HURT.
FIGHTING WAS ALWAYS EVERY-THING TO ME.
HOW DO I INVOKE THE RESCUE POWER?
I DON'T KNOW, EITHER.
ALL I KNOW FOR SURE...
THERE IS SOME PROFOUND QUALITY THAT YOU LACK.
WHAT IS IT?
...CAN I REALLY ...SAVE ANYONE?
...IS THAT THERE'S SOMEONE OUT THERE THAT NEEDS YOUR SAVING.
MY...
HAVING DONE NOTHING BUT FIGHT MY WHOLE LIFE
A MODEL ANGEL!
YOU'RE NOT ENTIRELY SOLEMN EITHER, YOU ALSO HAVE A SOFT SIDE
IS THAT A COMPLIMENT OR AN INSULT?
I'VE NEVER EVEN CONSIDERED...
HMM.
BUT ANY-WAY...
IT'S TRUE WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT ME BEING A WILD ANGEL
...SAVING SOMEONE BEFORE.
WHEN I START FIGHTING, I TOTALLY LOSE IT.

I THOUGHT YOU DIDN'T ACTUALLY WANT THIS TO END
STILL, HOW MANY DAYS HAVE WE BEEN HERE FOR?
WE'VE GOTTA STAY FOCUSED ON SUCCEEDING
RENJI
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
RENJI!
CHIK!
!!
BYE-BYE!
UNCLE KAITO!
And Uncle Renji!
THEY'VE SURE GROWN ATTACHED TO YOU, HAVEN'T THEY.
You're right at home with this foster-dad role
Shut up.
Bye byyye!
WHY WAS I THE AFTER-THOUGHT?
I was just thinkin
OH, AND YOU TOO, KAITO.
HOW ABOUT WE ALL HANG OUT SOMEWHERE?
YEAH, SURE.
WHAT IS IT?
WELL
I GOT OUTTA WORK EARLY TODAY SO .
Where to?
Renji?
25

WELL!
I NEVER HAD THEM, EITHER!
FRIENDS. PFFT!
.....
?
HEY, YOU'RE JUST THE SAME!
Ah ha ha!
WHAAA?
THAT'S SO STRANGE!
Yeah, well
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME FOR ME, TOO.
OH.
WELL, HE'S ENTIRELY DIFFE-RENT.
BUT, WHAT ABOUT KAITO?
HMM?
HAVING SOMEONE TO HANG OUT WITH REGULARLY
I'M HAPPY.
WE MIGHT BE MORE ALIKE THAN WE THOUGHT.
DOING THINGS FOR THEM, AND RECEIVING FAVORS FROM THEM IN RETURN...
I'm honored!
Is he there?
I CAN'T SHOW MYSELF NOW..
YEAH
MAYBE

RENJI!
GWH--
KH--!
Bwh!
!
Ren !
.....
Hey
ARE YOU TRYING TO KILL HIM?!
RENJI!
THAT'S MY LINE
A TATTOO OF A BLACK WING...
THE BANDITS!
.....
.....?
!!

WHAT'S THAT?
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?
!

EVER SINCE I WAS A TODDLER, I'VE KNOWN NOTHING BUT HOW TO FIGHT.
I DON'T ACTUALLY REMEMBER ANY OF THIS, BUT WHEN I WAS ABOUT THREE YEARS OLD, I WAS ORPHANED IT WAS THEN THAT THE LEADER OF THE ORGANIZATION PICKED ME UP AND RAISED ME
OR MORE ACCURATELY, A FORMER MEMBER.
WHEN I WAS 16...
...I WAS ASSIGNED A JOB TO EXTERMINATE THE ENTIRE ROYAL FAMILY OF A SMALL COUNTRY.
...THEY WERE THE QUEEN'S ELDEST SON AND DAUGHTER
IN OTHER WORDS, THE SUCCESSORS TO THE CROWN
...I FOUND TWO INFANT CHILDREN
TREMBLING BENEATH THE DEAD BODY OF THE QUEEN

THE FACT THAT THEY'VE SENT A SCOUT...
...CAN ONLY MEAN THAT THEY'VE FINALLY FOUND ME.
WHAT IS THIS ALL ABOUT?
...THEY'LL KILL ME IN A SECOND.
IF THEY FIND ME...
.....
AND I AM A MEMBER OF THE MERCENARY TERRORIST GROUP...
..."THE BANDITS."
MY REAL NAME IS JENNY.
I GUESS...
...THERE'S NO POINT HIDING IT ANY LONGER.

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU'VE DONE
BUT I DON'T THINK WE SHOULD SEE EACH OTHER ANY-MORE
IF YOU GET MIXED UP IN THIS, THEY'LL KILL YOU, TOO
RENJI.
KAITO.
AT ANY RATE, I'VE ALREADY PREPARED IN THE CASE THAT THEY'D FIND ME AGAIN
THEY TOOK LONGER THAN I'D EXPECTED
ARE YOU REALLY WILLING TO DIE?
IF ONLY..
...YOU REALLY WERE ANGELS.
BECAUSE ...
I WILL TRY TO RUN AWAY. I'LL CERTAINLY TRY MY HARDEST.
IT'LL BE MY LAST THRILL, I GUESS
...I CAN'T DO ANYTHING MYSELF...
...TO SAVE THOSE POOR CHILDREN.

I COULDN'T KILL THEM
...I SAW MYSELF.
BY SAVING THOSE CHILDREN
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT ..
..IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN THAT I WANTED MY OWN SINS... THE SINS OF KILLING SO MANY PEOPLE.. TO BE ATONED FOR EVEN IF ONLY A LITTLE
THOSE CHILDREN
YOU DON'T MEAN...!
THAT'S RIGHT.
I'M NOT.. THEIR REAL SISTER.
SO I RAN AWAY AND TOOK THEM WITH ME.
THERE'S NO WAY THEY'LL LET..
I'VE BEEN LIVING A LIE!
.. A TRAITOR AND COMMISSION TARGET LIVE.
BECAUSE ...
... SOMEHOW, IN THOSE CHILDREN ...

JUST LIKE THAT FIRST TIME
HUFF
HUFF
I'M RUNNING AWAY
HUFF
JUST A LITTLE FURTHER
...
PANT
CLICK

RENJI
.....
LINDA!
SHE...
WAS JUST LIKE ME
KNOWING ONLY HOW TO FIGHT
SHE HAD TO CARRY THAT BURDEN ALL BY HERSELF
WHAT HAPPENED ?
.....
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
I CAN'T BELIEVE I WAS SO NAIVE...
YOU SHOULD FOLLOW YOUR HEART
I'M SURE THAT GOD... WILL GUIDE YOU
I...
...WANT TO SAVE HER.
... ABOUT WHAT IT MEANS TO SAVE SOMEONE.

WHAT?
THAT'S RIGHT.
I NEVER TOLD YOU BEFORE
BUT I KILLED YOUR PARENTS.
//
I WENT OUT OF MY WAY TO RAISE YOU, BUT WHEN THE DOG THAT MASTER FEEDS BITES BACK
. THE DOG'S GONE WRONG
IT CAN'T BE...!
AND THE MASTER..
. HAS TO FINISH HIM OFF!
HUH..
HEH HEH HEH..
MEANING-LESS BABBLE!
IS THIS SOMETHING THAT ONLY SOMEONE WHOSE PARENTS WERE MURDERED WOULD UNDERSTAND?

I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU
YOU DID A GOOD JOB ESCAPING US FOR THIS LONG
OF COURSE, I WOULDN'T EXPECT ANYTHING LESS FROM MY LITTLE GIRL
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME JENNY.
...!
OR IS IT "LINDA" NOW, RIGHT?
LIKE WHAT?
LIKE WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO CARE ABOUT SOME-ONE
AND WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO WANT TO PROTECT SOMEONE NO MATTER WHAT
AND I'VE LEARNED SO MANY THINGS
THINGS THAT I NEVER LEARNED IN ALL MY YEARS WITH YOU
I'M GRATEFUL TO YOU YOU TOOK IN AN ORPHAN CHILD LIKE ME AND RAISED ME
BUT EVEN SO...
I'VE BEEN LIVING WITH THESE CHILDREN FOR THREE YEARS NOW ..

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU?!
A ROGUE ANGEL.
?!
RENJI!
THAT'S TOO MUCH!
He didn't waste a second
D I I E!

!!
UPH!
HOW...
RENJI!
UNCLE RENJI!
MAYBE IT'S THESE GUYS' SOULS THAT NEED THE SAVING, EH?
!!
THAT DEPENDS ON HOW FAR YOU GO!
I'M GOING TO GET A LITTLE ROUGH NOW.
KAITO.
GOT IT!
DON'T TRY TO STOP ME, OKAY?

I DON'T CARE IF IT'S JUST WITH THOSE LOUSY BRATS. I'M FINISHING THIS!
NO!
WHAT IS THIS?!
I CAN'T SCREW THIS UP.
I CAN'T TARNISH "THE BANDITS" NAME.

DON'T OVERDO IT NOW, RENJI!
NOT AGAIN!
AN ANGEL ...?!

SIS!
LINDA!
HUMANS ..
DON'T CONTROL THEIR OWN DESTINIES
YOU IDIOT. WHAT DO YOU MEAN, PUNISHMENT?
I KNOW ...
COUGH
I..
SO THIS IS MY PUNISHMENT.
I COULDN'T EVEN...
NO!
BUT.. THAT COULDN'T BE
YOU REALLY ...ARE JUST LIKE AN ANGEL.
...REPENT FOR MY SINS.
ANGELS COME DOWN FROM HEAVEN ALL THE TIME.
AS LONG AS THERE'RE PEOPLE IN NEED OF SAVING!
Sis!
BECAUSE THERE'S NO WAY...
...I'M GOING TO HEAVEN.
Does it hurt?
GOO!

YOU'RE JUST LIKE ME.
YOU KILLED... THEIR PARENTS.
THAT WAS YOU, REMEMBER, JENNY...?
THAT PATHETIC... HUMAN LOOK...
WHAT'S WITH...
...THAT LOOK?

RENJI..
YOU'RE SO KIND
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
YOU'RE...
YOU'RE THEIR SISTER, LINDA!
RENJI
MAY I ASK YOU..
TO PLEASE TAKE CARE FOR THESE CHILDREN FOR ME?
...ANYONE HAS SAID THAT TO ME
THAT'S THE FIRST TIME...
...GOD.
THANK YOU...
REALLY..?
...AN ANGEL
RENJI
AND THEN AT LAST
FOR ALLOWING ME TO MEET THESE CHILDREN...

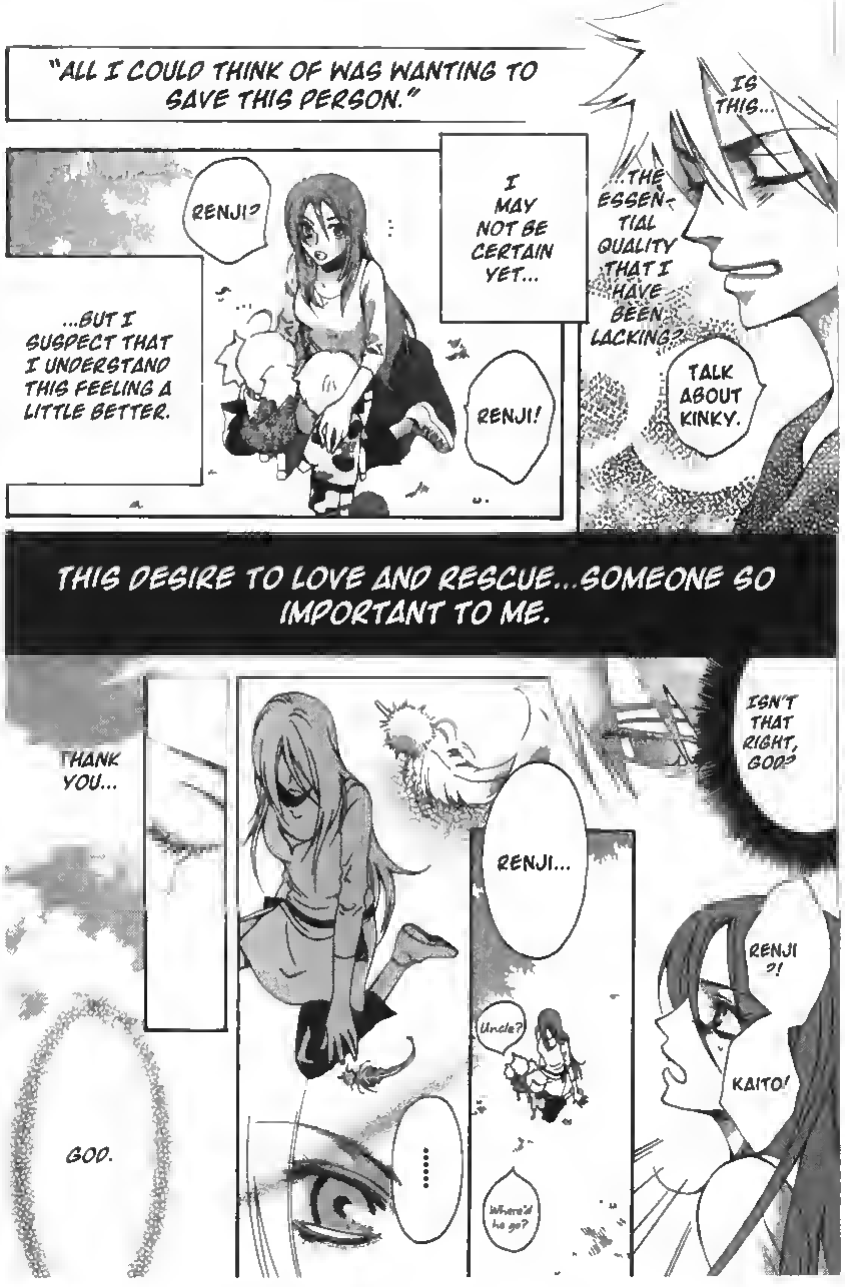
I'VE DEFEATED ENEMIES.. AND HAVE ALL THE POWER TO FIGHT BUT THAT DOESN'T HELP ME NOW!
WHY DOES THIS HAVE TO HAPPEN?! DAMMIT!
WHAT SHOULD I DO?!
THAT'S RIGHT, I
...WAS SUPPOSED TO COME HERE TO SAVE YOU.
Ren.
...BUT THE POWER TO SAVE THAT I WANT!
IT'S NOT THE POWER TO FIGHT...
I WANT THE POWER TO SAVE!!
SOUL RESCUE!
BUT WHERE ...
...IS IT?
WHAT DO I DO?!
I WANT TO SAVE HER!
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME..
I'VE FELT SO TENDERLY ABOUT SOMEONE WHO IS IN SO MANY WAYS JUST LIKE ME
THIS GENTLE PERSON THAT BEARS THE WEIGHT OF HER SINS

AAH...
WHAT IS THIS?!
IT'S AS IF...
...I'M BEING ENVELOPED BY AN ANGEL'S WINGS.
I'M BEING SWEPT AWAY...
IT'S SO WARM...

THIS IS...
SIS!
LINDA!
RENJI?
AM I... ALIVE?
I... SAVED HER.
I WAS ABLE TO SAVE HER.
SHE GOT HER LIFE BACK.
...SOUL RESCUE
Trick ster?!
BUT ANY-WAY.
GOD, THAT TRICK-STER!
HIDING IT IN A PLACE LIKE THIS
I KNOW.
...YEAH.
RENJI.
.....

That life...
soiled by...
murder and de-ceit.
All of it...
...is for-given.
LINDA?!
SIS!
Now live.
"I Forgive you."
IS THIS "DEATH" ?
NO
IT COULDN'T BE
...THIS GENTLE WITH ME...

I swear, you two
COME ON!
YOU'D BETTER NOT GET LOST!
Wait up!
FOLLOW ME!
YEG, PRETTY MUCH
SO HER MEMORY HAS...
IT MAY HAVE BEEN A BIT MUCH
BEEN COMPLETELY ERASED?
The Bandits Gang
NOW THEN.
...BUT I BELIEVE IT'S BETTER THIS WAY.
Mmm
Mm-hm!
TO ADDRESS THIS PROBLEM
Whoa...
THEIR SOULS ARE LIKE PITCH BLACK

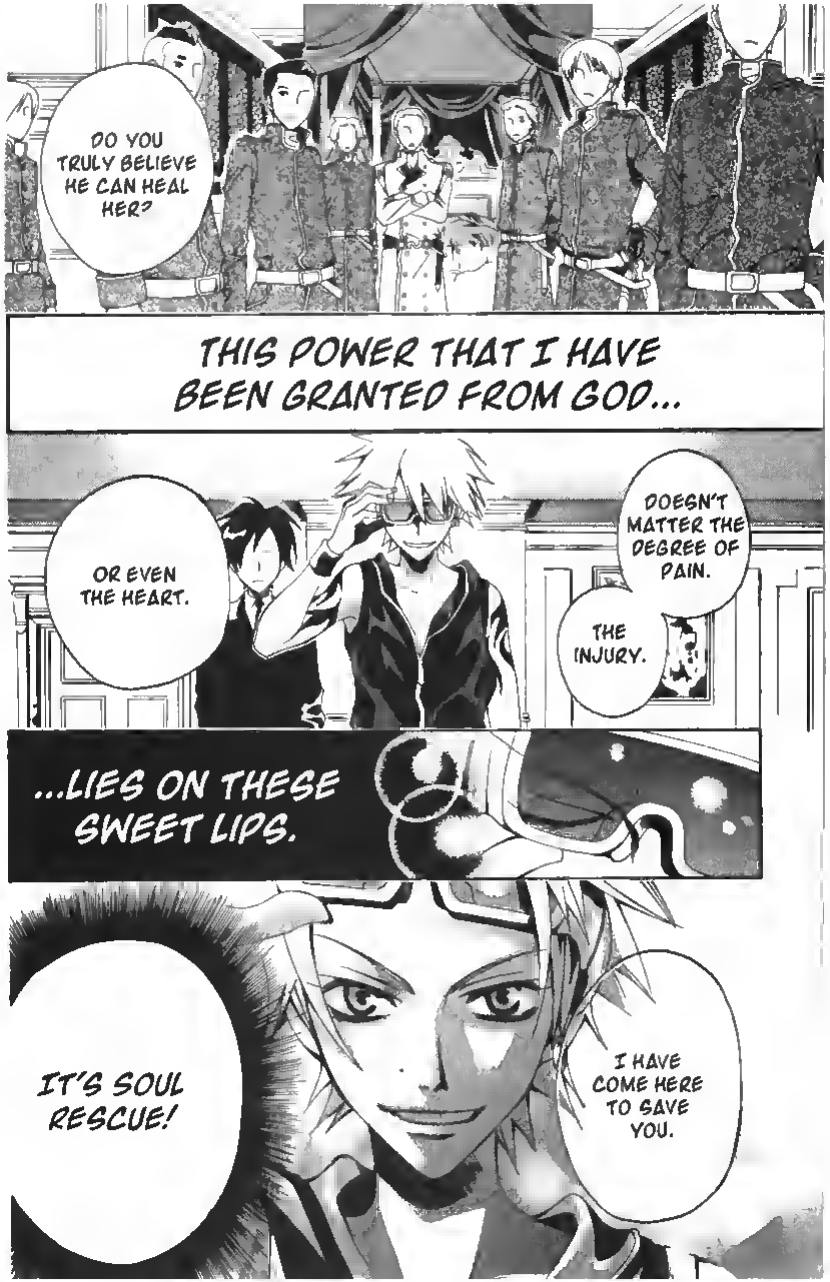

"ALL I COULD THINK OF WAS WANTING TO SAVE THIS PERSON."
RENJI?
I MAY NOT BE CERTAIN YET...
...BUT I SUSPECT THAT I UNDERSTAND THIS FEELING A LITTLE BETTER.
RENJI!
IS THIS...
...THE ESSENTIAL QUALITY THAT I HAVE BEEN LACKING?
TALK ABOUT KINKY.
THIS DESIRE TO LOVE AND RESCUE...SOMEONE SO IMPORTANT TO ME.
THANK YOU...
GOD.
RENJI...
Uncle?
Where'd he go?
ISN'T THAT RIGHT, GOD?
RENJI?!
KAITO!

GOD?
ARE YOU SURE --
JUST CALL IT GOD'S INTUITION.
.....
AS YOU SEE FIT, MY LORD.
PERSONS REMAINING UNTIL TARGET GOAL: 9,999
LOOKS LIKE I'VE STILL GOT QUITE A WAYS TO GO BEFORE I CAN RETURN TO HEAVEN...
WHAT IS IT?
?
:
RENJI?!
IT'S NO GOOD ...
THE FUTURE LOOKS DARK.

Renji.
?!
Oh, I forgot to tell you one last thing.
OR SO...
...I'D LIKE TO SAY ..
WAIT, WHY CAN'T I MOVE?!
FHEW
I WILL WASH YOUR SOULS CLEAN
WORRY NOT, MY LITTLE SHEEP
FOR THE POWER OF SOUL RESCUE LIES IN MY LIPS!
WHO WAS THAT?
GOD ?!
With that power, the degree of suffering you relieve -
...is equal to the degree of suffering you experience.
RENJI! HOW DARE YOU SPEAK TO GOD IN THAT TONE!
HOW COULD YOU GO AND FORGET SOMETHING THAT IMPORTANT?!
Microphone OFF
AT ANY RATE, HE MAY BECOME
.. THE ONE TO CARRY ON MY WILL
...THIS TEST WILL BE OVER
WHEN HE HAS FULLY UNDERSTOOD THE PAIN OF HUMANITY AND HAS EXPERIENCED GENUINE KINDNESS...
IT SEEMS HE DOES POSSESS GREAT POTENTIAL.
JUST AS I'D FORE-SEEN

SOUL RESCUE

IF IT MEANS THAT THE PRINCESS CAN BE CURED...ANY METHOD WILL DO.
HE CALLS HIMSELF "RENJI."
SHOW US WHAT YOU'VE GOT.
THIS MUST BE...
LEAVE IT TO ME.
THE BLACK SHADOW..
ANOTNER SOUL IN NEED OF RESCUING


DO YOU TRULY BELIEVE HE CAN HEAL HER?
THIS POWER THAT I HAVE BEEN GRANTED FROM GOD...
OR EVEN THE HEART.
DOESN'T MATTER THE DEGREE OF PAIN.
THE INJURY.
...LIES ON THESE SWEET LIPS.
IT'S SOUL RESCUE!
I HAVE COME HERE TO SAVE YOU.

"A ROGUE ANGEL"...
...IS HOW I WAS KNOWN UP IN HEAVEN, BUT AS PUNISHMENT FOR MY WILD BEHAVIOR, I'VE BEEN CONSIGNED TO THE HUMAN REALM.
AND UNTIL I CAN SAVE 10,000 PEOPLE BY USING MY "SOUL RESCUE" POWER TO HEAL WOUNDS OF THE HEART AND BODY...
..I WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO RETURN HOME TO HEAVEN.
WHICH BRINGS ME TO THIS.
Huh?
My being here
That Impostor!
He Hears?
Oh
THIS GUY'S THE ELITE ANGEL SENT TO WATCH OVER ME, KAITO.
WHAT WENT WRONG, RENJI?
I watched you...
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
ANSWER, YOU JERK!
EXCUSE ME?!
HEY, GOD!
THE POWER DIDN'T WORK!

A
.....
DID ANYTHING HAPPEN?
WHAT ...
.....
HM?
INFIDEL!
...THE --
.....
.....

SR

The truth is that I originally never drew shoujo manga. When I was in elementary school I drew things all right, but . It was only because of the "Hana to Yume" Big Challenge prize that I was able to debut under this genre The winning prize was for my first shoujo manga ever. Now, "Soul Rescue" is hardly what I would consider a shoujo manga, but even so, my whim (Ha!) to make the design and scenes "shoujo-manga-esque" has only proven itself to be a fruitless effort . These sparkly glittery screentones I use embarrass me to this very day. .(Heh.)

Persevere!

IT'S NO USE, I TELL YOU
CUZ NO MATTER HOW GREAT THE DOCTOR THAT'S COME, NONE OF THEM HAVE BEEN ABLE TO CURE HER YET.
YOU...
...CAME HERE TO CURE THE PRINCESS' ILLNESS, RIGHT?
AND WHO MIGHT YOU BE?
Nope.
YOU DON'T KNOW WHO I AM?
I'M PHANOELIA'S SECOND PRINCESS, SHALALA.
THE LITTLE SISTER OF PRINCESS LUCY.
HEY, DID YOU FIND 'IM?
SECOND PRINCESS ?

What is it you must do?
.....?
NOTHING HE SAID MADE ANY SENSE TO ME.
I ASKED HIM WHY MY POWERS DIDN'T WORK.
..Renji.
Take a good hard look at your own heart once more
What is important to you?

I WAS ABLE TO USE THE POWER BEFORE
I JUST DON'T GET IT!
AM I DOING SOMETHING WRONG?
KAITO...
MAYBE IT WAS JUST A FLUKE. IT COULD ALWAYS BE THAT TOO.
WHAT'S ALL THAT RACKET OUTSIDE?
?
HMMM...
AH!
WERE YOU.
ABOUT TO TEST IT OUT ON ME JUST NOW?!
YOU WOULDN'T HAPPEN TO BE SUFFERING, WOULD YOU?
.....?

BUT ANYWAY
Why did I start hiding, too?
In Lemuria?
WHERE COULD THAT INFAMOUS IMPOSTER BE?
BEATS ME HE MUST'VE GIVEN US THE SLIP
PROB-ABLY
.....
AND WITH THE KING PAST HIS PRIME, AND WITHOUT AN HEIR...
..NO DOUBT PRINCESS SHALALA WILL BE MADE THE SUCCESSOR
LOOKS LIKE PRINCESS LUCY REALLY CAN'T BE SAVED.
Hey you're talking a little too loud, bud
If someone were to hear you.
Oh, yeah. Sorry.
.....

I DON'T THINK SO!
BIG STRONG MEN CHASING DOWN A POOR DEFENGELESS LITTLE GIRL?
HOLD HER FOR ME, WOULD YA?
OOF!
THAT'S ENOUGH!
WOW...

HELP MEEEE!
SHALALA?!
!
WHO ARE YOU?!
VERMIN!
!!
EEEEK!
HEEELP, THEY'RE GONNA KILL MEEEE!

IT'S SO DULL...
...AND DEPRESSING!
SO I ESCAPE TO HANG OUT DOWNTOWN.
CUZ I...
...HATE THAT STUPID CASTLE!
Hard to believe she's actually a princess.
NOW THIS IS WHAT I CALL A BRATTY PRINCESS
Well, she reminds me of a certain somebody.
Can't believe he's actually an angel.
ERGH! IT'S SOOOO ANNOYING!
BUT THEY'RE ALWAYS NAGGING ME!
GRR!
THEN THEY'RE AFTER ME BEFORE I KNOW IT!
"IT'S TOO DANGEROUS!"
Blah, blah!
WE'RE TRAVELERS.
I'M RENJI.
RENJI AND KAITO, EH?
THIS HERE'S KAITO.
Okay!
BUT ENOUGH ABOUT THAT!
TELL ME ABOUT YOURSELVES!
YOU'RE NOT FROM AROUND HERE, ARE YOU. WHERE'D YOU COME FROM? WHAT'RE YOUR NAMES?

AH-HA HA HA HA!
BOY, THAT WAS FUN!
Huff huff
Huff huff
Huff huff
?!
RUUUN!
WHEEEW..
Um
WHY WOULD THE CASTLE GUARDS--
OH, THAT?
HAPPENS ALL THE TIME.
OH, YOU CAN CALL ME "SHALALA."
Right!
I OWE YOU TWO.
WHAT IS YOUR DEAL?
Huff
PRINCESS SHALALA, THOSE MEN WERE GUARDS FROM THE CASTLE, ISN'T THAT RIGHT?
REALLY?
Pay attention.

HOW SHELTERED AND IGNORANT HAD SHE GET?! MAN, SHE GOT ON MY NERVES!
WHO DOES THAT PRINCESS THINK SHE IS?!
...!
THAT'S WHY SHE BOTHERS YOU SO MUCH, DON'T YOU SEE? IT'S LIKE LOOKING AT YOUR FORMER SELF. THE SELFISH, REBELLIOUS SELF YOU USED TO BE.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO..
SHE'S A LOT LIKE YOU, YOU KNOW
I GAVE UP...
...AND RAN AWAY.
SHEESH! ALL RIGHT!
GUESS I'VE GOT NO CHOICE
I CAN'T DO THIS. ME.. SAVING PEOPLE?!
WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO?
I COULDN'T EVEN HANDLE MYSELF

IN THE FREE CITY OF SIREN, THERE IS NO MONARCHY TELLING PEOPLE WHAT TO DO EVERYONE MUST BE SO FREE!
OH, AND THEIR CLOTHES. THEY LOOK SO MODERN! AND THEIR BUILDINGS, TOO...
IT'S NOT THE PARADISE THAT YOU'RE IMAGINING IT TO BE.
HEY.
HAVE YOU EVER BEEN TO FREE CITY?
WOW!
THAT MUST BE SO FUN!
BEING A TRAVELER
I KNOW!
TAKE ME WITH YOU!
I BET WE'LL HAVE TONS OF FUN! Right?
WE CAN'T JUST TAKE ALONG EVERY PRINCESS WHO FEELS LIKE JOYRIDING.
LET'S GO, KAITO.
THERE ARE MANY PEOPLE WHO SUFFER THERE, TOO.
OH ...
BUT STILL IT'S GOTTA BE BETTER THAN HERE. I ENVY YOU. I WISH I COULD BE A TRAVELER LIKE YOU AND KAITO.
JUST FORGET ABOUT EVERYONE.. AND BE FREE.

I...
THAT IS NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!
YOU'RE SO LUCKY, JUST TRAVELING AROUND ALL DAY. MUST BE A LOTTA FUN.
I BET YOU DON'T HAVE A WORRY IN THE WORLD!
LEAVE ME ALONE!
I COULDN'T CARE LESS ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS TO LUCY!
I'M ONLY HER HALF-SISTER, ANYWAY!
AND BESIDES, IT'S NOT AS IF THERE'S ANY HOPE FOR HER NOW!
.....
RENJI, STOP!
WHAT ARE YOU --
WHAT ARE YOU SO ANGRY ABOUT?
YOU'RE JUST...
...RUNNING AWAY FROM SOMETHING.

THIS FEELS SO STRANGE.
WORRYING ABOUT SOMEONE ELSE LIKE THIS?
WHO'D GUESSED I'D END UP THIS WAY?
ME, WHO USED TO ONLY KNOW HOW TO FIGHT.
SHA-LALA ?
!
AREN'T YOU... WORRIED?
ABOUT YOUR SISTER, I MEAN.
...
WHAT'D YOU WANT?
CLIP

HOLD IT!
BUT MY PENDANT!
...!
ガアア
ポチ
PENDANT?
YEAH...
BUT...
WHAT-EVER.
IS IT THAT IMPORTANT TO YOU?
.....

LET...
LET GO OF ME!
SLIP
DO YOU ...
...ACTUALLY BELIEVE THAT?
!!

NOW WHERE'D IT GO?
IT'S TOO DARK TO SEE ANY-THING
THIS IS PRETTY DEEP..
NO ...
AND THIS CURRENT IS STRONG
COULD IT ALREADY BE SWEPT AWAY?

IT'S TOO LATE NOW, ANY-WAY.
THE CURRENT'S SO STRONG, SOMETHING SO SMALL MUST BE LONG GONE BY NOW.
WAIT HERE.
WHAT THE--
WHAT'D YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
DON'T BE STUPID!
GET BACK HERE!

.....
RENJI ...
RENJI!
THERE HE IS!

I HAVE TO...
...FIND IT!
アアアアアアアア
?!

BUT, I...
IT'S JUST.
I MEAN ...
.....
I WAS SO FRIGHT-ENED!
IT WAS... SO...SO PAINFUL!
I DIDN'T KNOW...
BUT EVERYONE'S JUST BEEN FIGHTING OVER WHO'LL BE SUCCESSOR
IT'S ALL ABOUT THE THRONE..
MY SISTER... SHE WAS... WASTING AWAY..
IT HURT TOO MUCH.
... WHAT TO DO.
I CAN'T DO ANYTHING.. I...
!

HERE.
IT'S IMPORTANT TO YOU, RIGHT?
YOU CAN'T JUST GIVE UP..
...ON SOMETHING VALUABLE TO YOU.

IT'S OKAY.
SISTER, IT'S TOO DANGER-OUS!
IT'S OKAY! NEVER-MIND!
SOON AFTER THAT, SHE STARTED TO GET SICK MORE FREQUENT-LY.
AND WE COULDN'T PLAY TOGETHER ANYMORE.
SISTER...
I LOVE YOU, SIS!
WOOOW!
... REVIVE HER?
WILL I BE ABLE TO...
WITH THIS POWER?
.....

WHAT IS IT?
A PRESSED FLOWER.
A FLOWER ?
OF COURSE, WE KEPT IT A SECRET FROM THE CASTLE.
THAT WAS BACK WHEN MY SISTER WAS STILL HEALTHY
AND MY SISTER... SHE ALWAYS INDULGED ME AND MY CHILDISH WHIMS.
A LONG TIME AGO, WHEN I WAS REALLY LITTLE, WE USED TO PLAY HERE A LOT.
GRUM-BLE
I WANNIT! I WANNIT!
GUESS THERE'S NO CHANGING YOUR MIND.
Just a little further
SISTER!
I WANT DAT FLOWER!

CAN I FIND THE POWER OF SOUL RESCUE?
Princess Shalala!
PRINCESS SHALALA!
?
THE CASTLE GUARDS!
It's the guy I kicked before
PRINCESS SHALALA!
ALL RIGHT ALREADY!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME
I'LL GO BACK.
PRINCESS SHALALA
IT'S SO STRANGE
THIS TIME ..
...I HAVE THE FEELING THAT ONLY YOU CAN HELP HER.
CAN I REALLY... SAVE HER?
DO I REALLY HAVE THE POWER...
...THIS TIME?

SHALALA.
I'M...
...GOING TO SAVE HER.
Take a good hard look at your own heart once more
What is important to you?
What is it that you must do?
.....
BUT, RENJI.
YOU COULDN'T HELP HER BEFORE.
STILL...
I'M GOING TO SAVE...
LUCY

Soul Rescue

IT'S ABOUT PRINCESS LUCY.
PRINCESS LUCY'S...
...CONDITION HAS WORSENED!
!!

SHA-LALA!
SISTER!
MOTHER!
HOW IS SHE?!
IT WAS A CLOSE CALL, BUT...
...SHE'S ALL RIGHT NOW.
.....
OH!
THANK GOOD-NESS!
Phew!
Zzz...

WORSENED?!
MY SISTER...
...!

HOW CAN WE GET IN THERE?
MAYBE THROUGH THE CHIMNEY
!
THUNK
D'oh!

I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT ANGELS..
WOULD EVER HAVE TO RESORT TO SNEAKING AROUND LIKE THIS
WHERE D RENJI AND KAITO GO?
WE CAN'T JUST WALTZ THROUGH THE FRONT DOOR.
IT'S NOT LIKE WE HAVE MUCH CHOICE!
Considering what happened last time.
ARGUING LIKE THIS WON'T DO US ANY GOOD.
IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY, THAT WINDOW SHOULD BE LUCY'S ROOM
I MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO HELP HER IF SHE GETS ANY WORSE
THIS IS A DISGRACE TO ALL ANGELS!

?!
WHO GOES THERE?!
Shoot!
THAT'S ...?!

Hmm Hmm
WHERE WERE WE?
CLATCH!
GOUGH!
GOUGH!
YOU SURE THERE WASN'T SOME OTHER WAY IN?!
Whatever!
WORKED LIKE A CHARM!
AND IN THIS DARKNESS, IT'LL BE EASIER TO HIDE!
.....
?

SR

It's chapter two and three! Aaah! Believe it or not, "Aaah!" is the only feeling I have about that. I love the character of Shalala. Generally speaking, I have a soft spot for all strong and go getter kinds of girls. Yup.

While I was working on the first part of chapter two, two days before the deadline for it I went to a rock concert (Ha!) And on my way home it rained a little and was a cold miserable day so of course I caught a fever. Reeaaal good memory there. Right.

As for whether or not going to concerts is a past time of mine... well, I love music. I never fail to put on background music while I'm working. Lately, I've been listening to a lot of Eastern Youth and Kingbrothers... But I love Thee Michelle Gun Elephant, Elephant Kashitmashi and Buck-tick. Oh, and BJC.

TIMES LIKE THESE REQUIRE THOUGHT-OUT STRATEGY.
?
SEEMS NOTHING'S CHANGED SINCE YOUR RECKLESS DAYS.
...
EVEN HE CAN BE PRETTY ROUGH.
THIS IS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THEIR COUNTRY, SO THINK OF IT AS DOING THEM A FAVOR
OH, WELL

YES...
I'M SORRY...
...FOR MAKING YOU WORRY.
IT'S OKAY.
SISTER!
THERE'S NO NEED TO APOLOGIZE.
MY, IT'S BEEN SO LONG...
...SINCE I'VE TALKED TO YOU, SHALALA.
THANK GOD!
YOU'RE ALL RIGHT!

WELL, GOTTA GO!
NICE WORK, GUYS!
Must be rookies.
ER. WHO WERE THOSE GUYS?
What an actor...
What!
THAT WAS QUITE AN ACCOMPLISHMENT!
Heh heh
Heh
TWAS NOTHIN' AT ALL!
Heh heh heh heh
YOU TWO THERE!
ANY SIGN OF THE INTRUDERS?
WHY, YES!
WE TOOK CARE OF 'EM ALL RIGHT
.....
.....
SHALALA?
WHERE COULD THEY HAVE GONE OFF TO?
RENJI.

HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!
RENJI!
KAITO!
...THAT HAS BEEN TAINTED!
?
!
WHAT IS THIS, YOU INGO-LENT--
LISTEN TO ME, YOUR HIGH-NESS
YOU'RE GIVING YOUR DAUGHTER WATER

LUCY!
I MET THE COOLEST GUYS!
SURE HAS..
HEH HEH!
ONE'S NAME IS RENJI AND--
CLATCH
THANK YOU.
HERE
HAVE SOME WATER.
WHAT A RELIEF!
YOU'RE AWAKE
MOTHER.

THINK YOU CAN APPRE-HEND ME?
YOU'RE NOT GETTING AWAY THIS TI--
JUST TRY IT!

WH-WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
SOME-BODY!
!!
REMOVE THESE MEN FROM MY SIGHT THIS INSTANT!
MOTHER, STOP IT!
CABINET MASTER!
THESE GUYS--
YOUR HIGH-NESS!
WHAT IS THE MATTER?
YOU!
YOU'RE THE ONE FROM BEFORE!
IT'S THOSE INTRUDERS! ARREST THEM!

!
WE SAW YOU EARLIER, TOO.
YOU WERE THERE WHEN ONE OF YOUR GUARDS PUT SOMETHING IN HER WATER!
YOUR MAJESTY
PERHAPS THIS WILL JOG YOUR MEMORY
HE'S SPEAKING NONSENSE!
SHALALA, PLEASE.
YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE SOME OUTSIDER OVER YOUR OWN MOTHER'S WORD, NOW WOULD YOU?
...!
MOTHER ?

RENJI!
DON'T BRING THE ROOF...
...DOWN ON OUR HEADS!
JUST WHAT ON EARTH...
...ARE THEY?!

LUCY?!
SISTER, NO!
!!
. AND MAKING SHALALA HAPPY.
AS LONG AS IT MEANT FULFILLING MY MOTHER'S WISH...
I'VE KNOWN ABOUT IT ALL ALONG.
IT'S...
...OKAY.

THE EFFECTS ARE SUBTLE AT FIRST, BUT ACCUMULATE IN THE BODY.
WHEN CONSUMED OVER A LONG PERIOD OF TIME, DEATH IS ALWAYS INEVITABLE.
IT'S "THE POTION OF THE GOO OF DEATH"
A POISON.
WHEN DID YOU--
WHEN WE AM-SCRAYED OUTTA THERE
!
IT HAS TO BE A LIE!
HE'S LYING ...
MOTHER?
RIGHT ?

SHA-LALA!
BOTH YOU AND MY SISTER...
I DON'T UNDERSTAND YOU!
SHALALA!
NO MORE!
ARE YOU JUST GOING TO RUN AWAY?!
RUN AWAY AGAIN?!
ARE YOU GOING TO KEEP...
...RUNNING EVERY TIME LIFE GETS A LITTLE ROUGH?!
IT'S ALL... OVER...
.....

SHALALA!
YOU HAVE TO UNDER-STAND!
THIS WAS ALL FOR YOU!
I JUST WANTED TO MAKE YOU HAPPY.
NO ONE PAID YOU ANY ATTEN-TION
AFTER THE KING DIED, EVERYONE ONLY FAVORED LUCY BECAUSE SHE WAS THE DAUGHTER OF THE KING'S FIRST WIFE
NO ONE TOOK YOU, MY DAUGHTER, SERIOUSLY BECAUSE I'M THE SECOND WIFE!
THAT'S...
...ALL THAT MAT-TERED.
SO, WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
ALL OF THIS WAS FOR MY SAKE?!
AND JUST HOW DOES THAT..
..MAKE ANY SENSE?!

I WANT TO APOLO-GIZE...
TO BOTH YOU AND MOTHER I JUST
.....
SHA-LALA...?
.....
ドン
ドン

BUT I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THAT.
YOUR MAJESTY
UP UNTIL NOW, I'VE OBEYED YOUR EVERY COMMAND.
I'VE EVEN MADE THE YOUNG PRINCESS DRINK POISON!
WE MUST END THIS!
ARE YOU JUST GOING TO RUN AWAY?!
SISTER!

IF MY POWER DOESN'T WORK AGAIN, THEN...
RENJI.
.....
CAN I REALLY SAVE HER?!
SOME-BODY, HELP!
RENJI?
I FEEL IT.
.....
I KNOW.
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE...
...WHO CAN SAVE HER.
I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN SAVE HER..
BUT..
I CAN FEEL THE POWER RISING INSIDE OF ME!
SOMETHING HAS CHANGED IN ME. SOME-THING

..THAT'S..
..WHAT WILL MAKE ME HAPPY!
...!
.....
SHALALA...
SISTER?!
sigh
SISTER!
?!
I...
I DON'T WANT TO SUCCEED THE THRONE.
THAT'S THE LAST THING THAT WOULD MAKE ME HAPPY!
AS LONG AS YOU AND MOTHER ARE OKAY...

SHA-LALA...?
I WANT...
..FROM THE DEPTH OF MY SOUL...
I CAN'T BELIEVE...
..TO SAVE THOSE I CARE ABOUT
...I FORGOT THAT WHICH IS THE SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT THING.

WHAT IS THIS?
I FEEL WARM...
IT'S AS THOUGH ALL THE POISON THAT HAS BUILT UP WITHIN ME...
...IS EVAPORATING.
THERE'S NOTHING MORE I WANT THAN TO SAVE HER NOW.

THEY CAME IN OUT OF THE BLUE...
...AND DISAPPEARED WITHOUT A WORD
SISTER...
WILL YOU...
I WANT TO SEE THEM AGAIN.
...FORGIVE MOTHER?
I STILL HAVEN'T...
RENJI...
THANKED THEM
You've matured again...
-Renji-

I SHOULD'VE DONE THIS FROM THE START.
IF I'D DONE THIS SOONER, NO ONE WOULD HAVE HAD TO FIGHT.
EVEN THOUGH I NEVER WANTED THE THRONE...
I WAS WEAK
...I JUST RAN AWAY.
SHA-LALA...
YOU TAUGHT ME...RENJI.
BECAUSE I WANT TO GET STRONGER
I HAVE TO GO NOW.
LEAVE THE CASTLE TO ME
BUT IF THING'S EVER GET TOUGH
...YOU CAN ALWAYS COME HOME
THERE'S NO STOPPING YOU, IS THERE?

Soul Rescue

You're progressing.
Despite the hardships... little by little
You might just be able to do this.
Yes...
Not even me...
What no one has ever succeeded in doing.
I THINK I'M GONNA COLLAPSE.
NOT YET!
WAIT UNTIL WE GET TO THE NEXT TOWN AT LEAST!
Don't push me!
Oh.

HOW COMPLETELY AND UTTERLY...
BUT WE DEVILS HAVE IT ALL FIGURED OUT.
IN SHORT, YOU SHOULD ONLY WORRY ABOUT YOUR OWN PLEASURE.
PURITY?
RIGHTEOUSNESS?
SAVING THEIR "LOST SHEEP"?
THOSE GUYS JUST DON'T KNOW A DAMNED THING.
...
STUPID AND TRIFLING
...
...THOSE ANGELS ARE!

Q: IN THIS WORLD, WHAT GIVES US THE MOST PLEASURE?

MR. RENJI!
Mr. Renji
I HAVE IT NOW
HEY!
SNAP OUT OF IT!
I KNOW NOW WHAT IS IMPORTANT..
SAVING THE PEOPLE THAT I CARE ABOUT..
?!
THAT'S RIGHT. I HAVE THE POWER TO DO THAT.

!!
IF MY BODY TAKES THIS MUCH DAMAGE JUST SAVING ONE PERSON, I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN KEEP IT UP
EVEN JUST HAVING ALL THIS POWER IN MY LIPS IS EXHAUSTING ME!
AND THERE'RE STILL 9,998 PEOPLE LEFT
Symptoms of high pulse, heart palpitations, difficulty breathing, vertigo, unsteadiness
THIS SOUL RESCUE...
...IS REALLY TAKING A TOLL ON ME.
I can't take another step.
Come on, we're going.
WHAT'S WITH THE WEARY MONOLOGUE?
THERE ARE STILL PLENTY OF PEOPLE WAITING FOR YOU TO SAVE THEM.
AT THIS RATE, WE'LL NEVER RETURN TO HEAVEN.
Sent to earth!
I'M DEALING WITH AN ANGEL WHO GOT KICKED OUT OF HEAVEN FOR BEING TOO VIOLENT.
Rogue angel
バタン。
Uuh..
Renji?!

...BUT WE CAN'T VERY WELL TAKE IT SLOW NOW.
ACTU-ALLY...
?
LOOK
I KNOW SHE SAID TO TAKE MY TIME..
.....
I RECEIVED A REPORT FROM HEAVEN.
...THAT MIGHT JUST WHAT WE NEEDED.
DEVILS HAVE COME TO THE HUMAN REALM?!
WELL ...
WHAT ARE THEY PLAN-NING?!
SEEMS SOME DEVILS ARE RESIDING IN THIS VICINITY.
DEVILS?!
RENJI, YOU KNOW ABOUT THE ARRANGE-MENT BETWEEN HEAVEN AND HELL, RIGHT?
Er- actually I was too busy fighting.
FINE LET ME EXPLAIN IT TO YOU SIMPLY:
.....?

JUST AFTER YOU COLLAPSED, SHE--
MS. JANIS HAPPENED TO PASS BY.
Janis?
WHERE AM I...?
MR. RENJI
THANK GOOD-NESS.
YOU'VE COME AROUND
CALL ME JANIS!
Nice to meet you
SHE BROUGHT YOU TO HER HOME TO LOOK AFTER YOU.
I SEE..
IF YOU FEEL BETTER ALREADY.
. THERE'S A DINING HALL ON THE FIRST FLOOR. FOOD'S READY.
DON'T FEEL LIKE YOU HAVE ANY OBLIGA-TIONS JUST TAKE YOUR TIME.
HELP THY NEIGHBOR, RIGHT?

WHAT HAPPENED? IT'S ALREADY OVER?!
DEVILS...
RENJI!
YOU CAN'T IGNORE THE SUPERIOR OFFICER'S COMMANDS!
THAT'S ENOUGH. OUR MILITARY STRATEGY ONLY GOES THIS FAR!
SORRY, CAN'T HEAR YOU.
Wait!

HOWEVER, FOR THOSE WHO HAVE COMMITTED A GRAVE SIN OR DIED WHILE HARBORING PAIN AND ANGUISH IN THEIR SOULS...
NORMALLY, WHEN HUMANS DIE, THEY BECOME SOULS AND ARE LED UP TO HEAVEN.
BY GOD'S HAND, THEY BEGIN A NEW, PURIFIED EXISTENCE.
THE PURPOSE OF SOUL RESCUE IS TO PREVENT THAT FROM HAPPENING.
SO DO YOU SEE NOW?
WHEN THIS OCCURS, THOSE WITH THE POWER OF STRONG EVIL WITHIN THEM BECOME DEVILS...
...AND THOSE WITH WEAKER SOULS ARE TREATED AS SLAVES, EVENTUALLY BEING EXTINGUISHED
...FALL TO HELL.
THE DEVILS ARE BASICALLY DOING THE SAME THING WE ARE.
THOUGH OF COURSE, TO ACHIEVE ENTIRELY OPPOSITE RESULTS

YOU HAVE A SOUL OF PURE DESTRUCTION AND DESIRE.
WHY DON'T YOU COME OVER TO OUR SIDE?
THOSE WHITE WINGS DON'T SUIT YOU AT ALL.
ARE YOU SURE...
DON'T MESS WITH ME!
...YOU'RE REALLY AN ANGEL?
I AM AN ANGEL.
YOU CARRY THE SAME SCENT AS US.
THE STENCH OF BLOOD

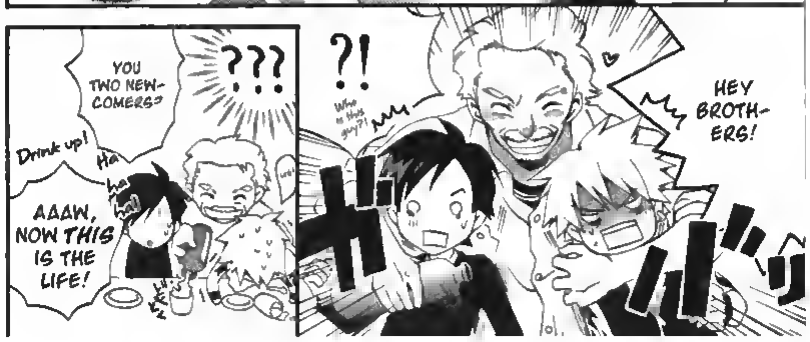
WHO ARE YOU?
ARE YOU REALLY ...
...AN ANGEL?

SHE'S BEAUTIFUL AND WISE
OUR SWEET JANIS.
...IS NOTHING SHORT OF AN ANGEL.
AND DONTATED IT ALL TO BENEFIT THE POOR
WHEN HER FATHER PASSED AWAY AND SHE RECEIVED HIS INHERITANCE, SHE GAVE UP ALL HER PRIVATE PROPERTY
MISS JANIS IS THE DAUGHTER OF A WELL-KNOWN ARISTO-CRAT.
SHE WORRIES ABOUT US...
.. MORE THAN SHE DOES ABOUT HERSELF
BUT I TELL YA..
SHE'S SOMETIMES TOO KIND.

NOW YOU HOLD ON THERE!
.....
AFTER WE'D BEEN SUFFERING FOR SO LONG UNDER THE RULE OF THE CORRUPT FEUDAL LORD..
..SHE TAUGHT US HOW TO MAKE A STAND AND FIGHT BACK!

EXACTLY.
NOT A DEVIL!
THERE HAVE ALREADY BEEN REPORTS OF DESTRUCTION IN OTHER REGIONS BELIEVED TO BE THE WORK OF DEVILS.
AND WE'RE GOING TO BRING DOWN...
WE CAN'T SIT BACK AND LET THIS HAP-PEN.
...THE DEVILS TRYING TO DRAG THEM TO HELL.
IN OTHER WORDS, THEY LEAD HUMANS TO THE DARK SIDE.

THIS TIME I WILL CONQUER DEVILS...
...TO RESCUE HUMANS!
I'M NO LONGER THE ROGUE ANGEL OF THE PAST.
WE ARE GOING TO FIND THEM...
...AND DEFEAT THEM.


YOU TWO NEW-COMERS?
???
Drink up!
Ha
ha
ha!
AAAW, NOW THIS IS THE LIFE!
?!
Who is this guy?!
HEY BROTH-ERS!

THE TAXES HAVE GONE UP AGAIN.
HE DIDN'T EVEN LIFT A FINGER WHILE WE SUFFERED THROUGH THE FAMINE EARLIER THIS YEAR.
BUYING UP ALL OUR GOODS AT THOSE LOW PRICES. THE FEUDAL LORD'S THE ONLY ONE MAKING HUGE PROFITS FROM THE FRUIT OF OUR LABOR!
THE WAY THINGS ARE, I CAN'T EVEN PROVIDE MY CHILDREN A DECENT MEAL!
THAT MIGHT JUST BE...
...
FEUDAL LORD DEPAS?
SOUNDS LIKE ONE BAAAD DUDE TO ME.
...POSSIBLE.
DEVILS...
HE'S A DEVIL, I TELL YOU!

Really NOW THAT'S GOING TOO FAR!
BECK...
YOU TOO, MIDO!
YOU'RE DRUNK AGAIN! DID YOU FORGET YOUR PROMISE BEFORE ABOUT GOING SOBER?
HEH HEH I COULDN'T HELP IT
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT...
I SEE.
...IS INCREDIBLY POOR
...THIS TOWN...

IF HE DOESN'T, THEN IT'S A FIGHT
WE'LL PROTECT MISS JANIS AT ANY COST.
SURE THING. LEAVE IT TO US.
THAT'S WHAT WE'RE HERE FOR.
VINNY!
YOU'RE RIGHT!
TOI!
WITH YOU TWO AROUND, WE WON'T HAVE A THING TO WORRY ABOUT!

DEVILS THAT DRAW PEOPLE TO THE DARK PATH...
...AND TEMPT THEM INTO RUIN
EVERYONE!
NOTHING'S GOING TO CHANGE IF WE REMAIN QUIET ABOUT THE FEUDAL LORD'S TYRANNY!
Yeeah!
WE CAN CHANGE THIS TOWN!
WE MUST GATHER OUR STRENGTH
...AND FACE HIM!
WE'RE GOING TO TRY TALKING FIRST. WE'VE DONE IT COUNTLESS TIMES ALREADY.
BUT WHETHER DEPAS WILL FEEL INCLINED TO OR NOT...
YOU'RE GOING TO FIGHT?
.....
THREE CHEERS FOR JANIS!
HOORAH!

SR

Okay!
The devils have made their appearance!
You can't have angels without devils right?
It's fun to draw devils
The reason I'm better at drawing bad guys than good guys is because my personality's evil. Believe it or not, I enjoy the color black

Oh, but aren't the two angels in this story black, too ?

At any rate, just wanted to say having this one-fourth page space in my own tankoboh to write comments has been my dream for a long time

But I just can't ever get my true feelings out here
It really seems that all I end up doing is write boring stuff. Aaww

THIS SURE IS A DARK TOWN.
BUT SOMEHOW YOU STILL SEEM TO GLOW.
THAT'S BECAUSE IT'S NIGHT-TIME, SILLY.
EVERY-ONE'S...
...EXPRES-SIONS ARE SHINING WITH HOPE.
...I WANT TO SAVE EVERYONE.
I HOPE YOU'RE RIGHT ABOUT THAT.
THIS MAY BE PRESUMPTUOUS OF ME, BUT...

BUT PLEASE PROMISE ME...
THAT'S THE ONLY POWER SHE HAS..
YOU COULD CALL US EX-MERCE-NARIES.
EVERYONE LIVING HAPPILY.
THAT...
...YOU WON'T TRY ANYTHING DANGEROUS.
LOOK HOW ALL THE PEOPLE THAT SUPPORT MISS JANIS HAVE GATHERED HERE.
.....
...ONLY WISH.
...IS MY..
"LIKE AN ANGEL," EH?

EVERY ONE OF THEM...
HEAR US, GREAT FEUDAL LORD!
AS THE TOWN'S REPRESENT-ATIVE, I ASK FOR AN AUDIENCE WITH YOU!
WE HAVE TO TALK!

I COULDN'T UNDERSTAND HOW PEOPLE COULD SUFFER SO MUCH
I WAS UTTERLY ASHAMED FOR HAVING LIVED CARE-FREE IN THE LAP OF LUXURY ALL MY LIFE.
IT WAS A REAL SHOCK FOR ME
THESE PEOPLE HAD GIVEN UP ON EVERY-THING.
WHEN I WAS TEN YEARS OLD
ALL THE ADULTS WERE TIRED AND THE CHILDREN HAD NEVER KNOWN ANY REASON TO SMILE
..I SNUCK OUT OF THE MANSION TO GO OUTSIDE. THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME I'D EVER SEEN THIS TOWN

THAT I COULD RELIEVE EVERYONE OF THEIR MISERY.
AND THAT'S WHEN I MADE UP MY WISH
IT WAS SO DEPRESS-ING

...I WANT TO SAVE EVERY ONE OF THEM!
I...

LISTEN, EVERYONE!
ARE YOU JUST GOING TO GIVE UP LIKE THIS?!
THOSE FIENDS!
MISS JANIS!
.....
...!
TALKING WITH THE FEUDAL LORD HAS PROVEN USELESS!
DON'T YOU SEE?
HE'S RIGHT!
LET'S FIGHT!
TO GRANT MISS JANIS HER WISH!
VINNY?
.....

?!
LORD DEPAS WOULD NEVER MEET WITH VERMIN LIKE YOU.
HMPH. HOW MANY TIMES ARE YOU GOING TO GO THROUGH THE TROUBLE OF SHOWING UP HERE?
WELL, TODAY ...
WE ARE NOT LEAVING UNTIL WE SEE HIM!
IN THAT CASE
THAT SO?
WE SHALL HAVE TO RESORT TO FORCE, NOW WON'T WE?

!!
!!
MR. KAITO.
MR. RENJI?

FOOLS...
IF IT'S A FIGHT THEY WANT, THEN IT'S A FIGHT THEY'LL GET!
WHAT CAN DO YOU INFIDELS DO WITHOUT WEAP-ONS?!
WE MUSTN'T FIGHT!
STOP IT!
EVERYONE, STOP!
BY OUR HAND...
STOP IT!
...DEDAS WILL FALL!

!!
ERGH!
HOW DARE YOU TAKE ME LIGHTLY!
DON'T GET AHEAD OF YOURSELF!

WHERE ARE THEY?
...!
COME OUT, YOU DEVILS!
I'M READY TO TEAR YOU DOWN!
I HOPE THIS MAKES UP FOR LETTING US STAY FREE LAST NIGHT.
NOT LIKE THAT'S THE ONLY THING, THOUGH.

...WE'RE NOT IN THE CLEAR YET.
HIS CONDI-TION'S STABILIZED, BUT...
.....
WHY?
THOSE GOGGLES CARRY THE WILL OF GOD.
RENJI
.....
DOES THIS MEAN I DON'T NEED TO SAVE HIM?
EVEN THOUGH HE'S SUFFERED SO MUCH...
THERE'S NO...
THEY DON'T NECESSARILY SHOW EVERY PAIN AND DOUBT.
...AROUND THOSE YOU HAVE A CHANCE OF SAVING.
IT WILL ONLY REVEAL THE BLACK SHADOW...
..BLACK SHADOW.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT HER.
WELL, WOULD YA LOOK AT THAT!
MIDO?!
THIS IS IT!
WITH ALL THE BACKUP, WE'LL DRAW THOSE DEVIL FIENDS OUT IN NO TIME!
MIDO!

MIDO HAS SUSTAINED LIFE-THREATENING INJURIES!
WE WON'T LET THEM GET AWAY WITH THIS ANYMORE!
WE, TOO, WILL TAKE UP WEAPONS...
...AND FIGHT!
JUST YOU WAIT, YOU DEVILS.
FOR JANIS' SAKE.
NO MATTER WHAT, I WILL DEFEAT YOU.

...CAN SAVE.
ONLY I...
WHY DID THIS HAVE TO HAPPEN?
...WAS FOR EVERYONE TO BE HAPPY.
ALL I WANTED...
.....
THE CAUSE BEHIND ALL THIS IS THOSE DEVILS!!
IF ONLY I HAD BEEN FIRMER.
I COULDN'T STOP THIS.

SR
Soul Rescue

...BUT THIS IS A MOST UNEXPECTED TURN OF EVENTS
I THOUGHT THIS GAME WOULD END QUICKLY...
WON'T THIS BE FUN?
IT APPEARS THAT THE ANGEL...
LIKES TO TUSSLE

READY, EVERY-ONE?
WE'RE GOING IN!
TODAY, THE FEUDAL LORD WILL GO DOWN!
WAIT!

ALL I WANTED...
WHY DID THIS HAVE TO HAPPEN?
...WAS FOR EVERYONE TO BE HAPPY.
FOR JANIS' SAKE...
THE CAUSE BEHIND ALL THIS IS THOSE DEVILS.
...I WILL DEFEAT YOU NO MATTER WHAT!

I PROMISE YOU, WE'LL WIN.
WE'RE GOING TO SET THINGS RIGHT WITH OUR OWN HANDS!
BECK...
EVERY-ONE..
IT'S OKAY.
MIDO?!
.....
WEREN'T THOSE...
...YOU'RE EXACT WORDS?!

WHY ARE YOU TRYING TO STOP US, MISS JANIS?!
WEAPONS CAN'T DEFEAT THE FEUDAL LORD!
THERE MUST BE ANOTHER WAY THAT WOULDN'T INVOLVE BLOOD-SHED!
I DON'T WANT ANY MORE PEOPLE TO GET HURT.
WAIT!
EVERYONE, STOP!
WE MUSTN'T FIGHT!
NOTHING WILL TO CHANGE IF WE REMAIN QUIET!
.....
THEY ALREADY TOOK MIDO FROM US..
!!
WEREN'T THOSE..
...YOU'RE EXACT WORDS?!

THIS IS...
THIS IS MY FAULT.
NOTHING'S GOING TO CHANGE IF WE REMAIN QUIET ABOUT THE FEUDAL LORD'S TYRANNY!
WE WILL CHANGE THIS TOWN!
...I LET MIDO DIE.
BECAUSE I RILED EVERYONE UP...
WHAT DO I DO?
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
IT'S MY FAULT.
THAT'S RIGHT. I'M TO BLAME.

I JUST WON-DER...
...IF I WAS..
...ABLE TO BE OF...
...HELP TO YOU.
MISS ...
...JANIS..
HANG IN THERE !
HE JUST SUDDENLY CAME TO!
MIDO!
MIDO!
OUR JANIS IS LIKE AN ANGEL
DEDAS WILL FALL!

SINCE YOU DIDN'T COME WHEN WE CALLED...
...WE CAME ON OUR OWN.
COMMONERS SHOULD KEEP QUIET..
..AND WORK FOR ME!
THAT'S FAR ENOUGH, CREEP!
!
YOU ACTUALLY THINK.
...YOU COULD JUST WALK IN HERE..
!
JUST HOW DID YOU--
WHAT?!
WHO ARE YOU?!

THEN, DIE.
FOOLISH PESTS...
COME OUT, PEPAS!
YOU SWINE!

.....
.....?
DON'T TELL ME THAT'S ALL HE'S GOT!
IS HE MESSING WITH ME?
THERE SHOULD BE MORE FIGHT IN HIM YET.. RIGHT?
HOW COULD THAT BE?
HE'S NOT.. A DEVIL?!
RENJI ...
HE'S UNCONSCIOUS

...SO EASILY?
?!
WHOOSH!
?!
...YOU DEVIL!
SHOW YOUR TRUE FORM .

SR

Sorry that my words have to be so small!! This manga has so many panels and they're all so packed together. I really appreciate you squinting your eyes to read this trivial talk! Keep up the good work! There's just one commentary left.

And uh.. oh, if you could, I would love to receive letters of your impressions.

TOKYOPOP
5900 Wilshire Blvd
#2000
Los Angeles CA
90036

IF THAT'S TRUE, THEN THIS MUST'VE ALL BEEN PART OF THEIR PLAN.
SO THE DEVILS WERE INFILTRATED AMONGST THE TOWNSPEOPLE ALL ALONG?
THEY TURNED THEM TOWARDS VIOLENCE...
...AND BROKE JANIS' HEART.
DOES THAT MEAN I WAS JUST BEING USED, TOO?!
DAM-MIT..
WHERE ARE YOU HEADED TO IN SUCH A HURRY?

THE DEVILS!
!!
NOW THEN

IT'S GOOD TO TAKE YOUR WORK SERIOUSLY.
VINNY.
TO!...
BUT YOU SHOULD TAKE A BREAK ONCE IN A WHILE.
THAT'S A BAD HABIT YOU ANGELS HAVE
NO WAY ...
FOOM
IT WAS YOU GUYS ALL ALONG?

...AND I'LL SMASH YOU TO BITS!
YOU JUST SAY THE WORD...
LET LOOSE...
MORE POWER.
YOU DO WANT TO BEAT ME DOWN, RIGHT?

LET'S PLAY.
OH GREAT ANGELS.

RENJI!
NOT SO FAST, KID.
YOUR FIGHT'S WITH ME.
WE WON'T LET YOU GUYS GET AWAY WITH THIS!

JUST LOVELY.
THOSE EYES.
THEY HAVEN'T...
...CHANGED A BIT...
...FROM LAST TIME.
ARE YOU REALLY AN ANGEL?
YOU'RE THAT DEVIL FROM BEFORE!
?!
LAST TIME?

ARE YOU REALLY AN ANGEL?
IT'S TOO DANGEROUS HERE!
YOU CAUSED THIS MESS!
SO YOU'RE THEIR LEADER?!
MISS JANIS!
WE ONLY WANT WHAT EVERY PERSON WANTS!
...WANT TO LIVE HAPPILY!
WE JUST...
THERE'S NOTHING MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN A BODY INDULGING IN WHAT IT DESIRES TO DO THE MOST.
ARE YOU SURE?
GHK!
WHEN YOU'RE FIGHTING... YOU'RE AT YOUR PUREST.
WHY DO YOU SAVE PEOPLE?

THAT'S PRETTY BIG WORDS FOR A LITTLE BRAT!
DON'T LET YOUR GUARD DOWN JUST YET, CUZ I'M COMIN' FOR YOU!
MISS JANIS!
MISS JANIS!
IT'S TOO DANGEROUS HERE!
PLEASE LISTEN TO WHAT WE HAVE TO SAY!
GREAT FEUDAL LORD!
PLEASE STOP ...
LISTEN TO ME, EVERY-BODY!

...I'M NOT AN ANGEL?
I HAVE THE POWER OF SOUL RESCUE!
MISS JANIS!
I BEG OF YOU..
THAT'S RIGHT, I...
I JUST WANT EVERYONE..

I'M..
..WITH SOMETHING SO TRIFLING.
STOP WASTING YOUR TIME ...
!
YOU LIKE HAVING FUN, RIGHT?
IT'S MORE FUN BEING ON THIS SIDE.
CAN SOMEONE WITH EYES LIKE THAT REALLY BE AN ANGEL?
...AN ANGEL!
DID YOU SAY..?
QUIT FLAPPING YOUR JAW, WOULD YOU?

?!
I KNOW.
?
VINNY!
I WISH WE COULD PLAY SOME MORE.
HEY!
WAIT!
THIS IS THE END OF THE FIRST ACT.
SEEMS OUR TACTICS WERE A SUCCESS
WE'VE GOT ANOTHER "LOST SHEEP" TO GUIDE TO HELL.
WE'LL CONTINUE THIS NEXT TIME

...TO BE HAPPY.
...HAVE THE POWER TO SAVE!

JANIS!
ANSWER ME!
JANIS?
.....
THAT'S RIGHT!
I'LL USE SOUL RESCUE!

WHAT IS THIS AWFUL FEELING?
.....
JANIS?
WHAT?
THEY GOT AWAY.

I...
POOR MISS JANIS
I WANT TO SAVE EVERY ONE OF THEM.
DEAR GOD!
I COULDN'T SAVE HER?!
I COULDN'T SAVE HER?!

C'MON!
WHY?!
WHY ISN'T SHE WAKING UP?!
HOW CAN THAT BE ALLOWED?!
WHY DOES JANIS HAVE TO DIE?!
RENJI...
I'M SUPPOSED TO BE ABLE TO HEAL ALL INJURIES
ONCE THE SOUL HAS LEFT THE BODY
...!
...IT'S TOO LATE TO SAVE THEM.

D
A
SOUL RESCUE™

IF THIS WAS GOING TO HAPPEN...
DID YOU KNOW ALL ALONG...
...THAT THIS WOULD HAPPEN?!
...THEN WHY...
WHY..
...WAS I EVEN GIVEN SOUL RESCUE?!

..PLEASE SAVE HER WANDERING SOUL.
DEAR GOD...
MISS JANIS.
AND MIDO.
.....
EVEN IF IT COSTS OUR LIVES.
WE WILL TAKE ON THE ENEMY.

THEN WHY...
IF THIS WAS GOING TO HAPPEN..
...WAS I EVEN GIVEN SOUL RESCUE?!
GOD!

DOESN'T IT JUST EAT AT YOU?
THERE'S SOMETHING GETTING IN THE WAY OF WHAT YOU WANT, ISN'T THERE?
GREAT FEUDAL LORD.
KILL OFF THOSE THAT STAND IN YOUR WAY AND LEAVE NOT ONE ALIVE.
KILL THEM.
KILL THEM.
INGOLENT COMMONERS!
I...
YOU WON'T...
...GET AWAY WITH THIS!

I COULDN'T DO ANYTHING...
I COULDN'T...
SAVE HER
.....
HOW CAN I REALLY...
ME...
.ACTUALLY SAVING SOME-BODY?
I KNEW ...
...IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE.
...BE AN ANGEL?
SUIEN

OR SHOULD I SAY...
...HOLY ANGEL.
JANIS...!
...I CAN SEE THEM.
NOW THAT I AM A SPIRIT...

MR. RENJI...

...YOUR AID!
I COULDN'T DO IT.
BECK...AND ALL THE REST OF THEM
SAVE THEM, PLEASE!
BUT AN ANGEL LIKE YOU CAN!
BUT...
I...
I...
...MUST FALL TO HELL NOW.
STOP THEM!
GIVE THEM ALL...

.. WHITE WINGS.
I SEE YOUR...
IF YOU HAVE COME HERE TO SAVE US...
...I BEG YOU!
IT IS JUST ONE WISH ..
.. BUT, HOLY ANGEL, I BESEECH YOU.
I HAVE SEPERATED FROM MY BODY BUT PLEASE FORGIVE ME FOR THE ATTACHMENT I STILL HOLD ON EARTH
SAVE THEM ALL!

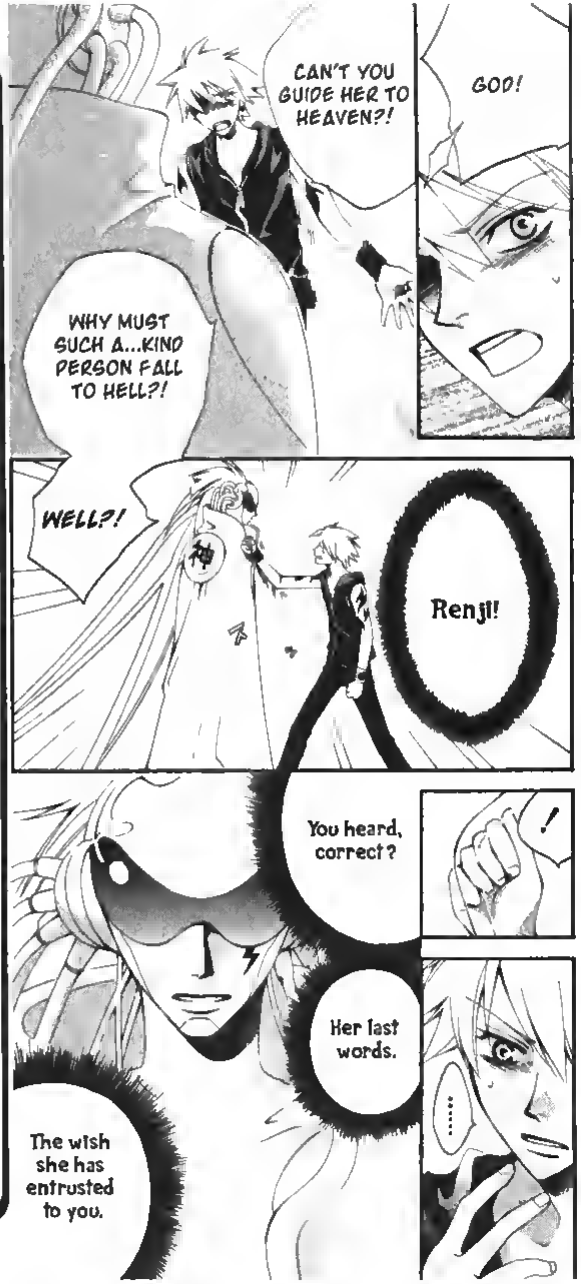
SR

About this chapter
I actually didn't want to draw people dying. But since it was necessary, I drew it
What I wanted to draw in Soul Rescue was love and peace. That's what I truly believe to be important especially this day and age

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Special Thanks!
⇩

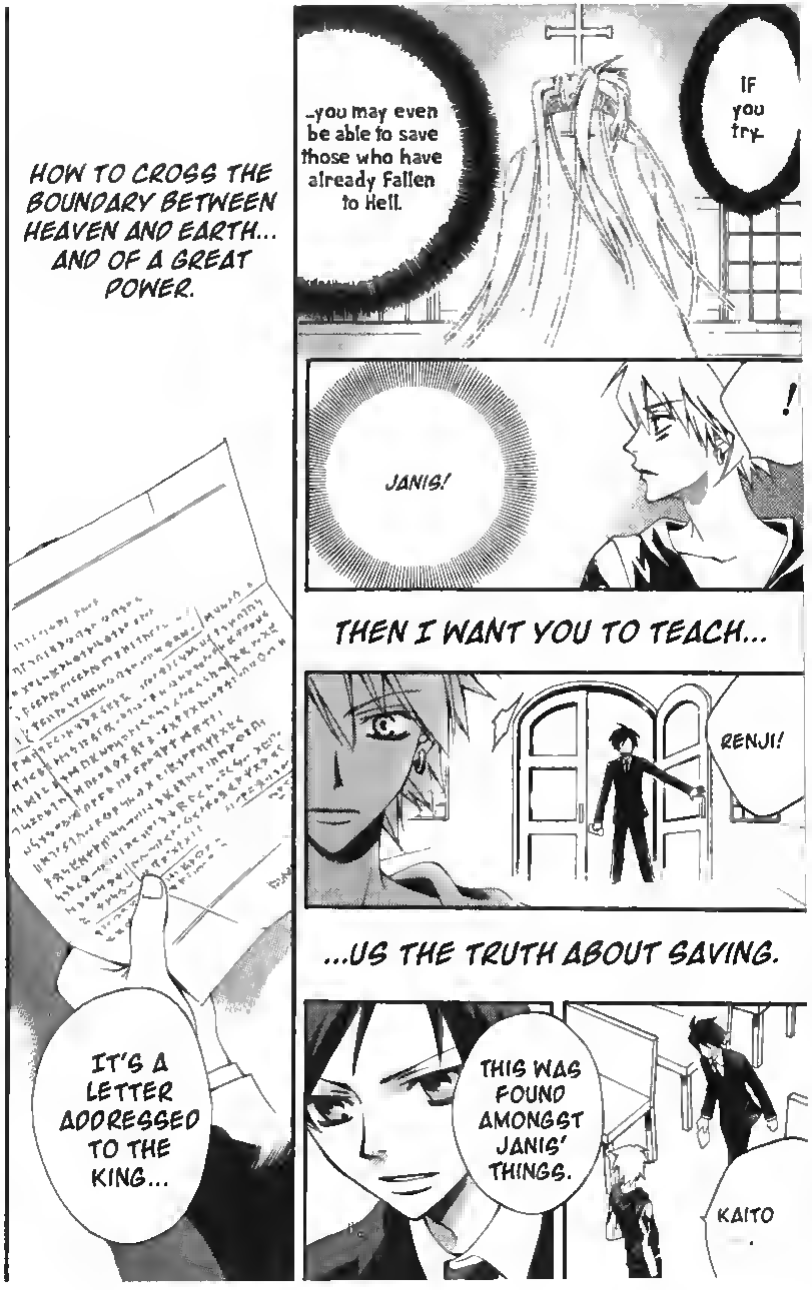
As always, thanks to my wonderful family!
Necchi!
Sayaka-san
Shimada-san
Yuuki-sempai
Ume
Eji
Shimi-san
Pin-chan
Everyone at Asaki Studios
Anyone else I owe thanks to?
Of course you out there reading this book!
Thank you!
I hope we meet again!



..to be that way
They are made..
..lived only for violence
But then there was you who..
Angels are "Heavens messengers"
Helpers that protect and live lives of love and mercy
And..
Its not a desire that was placed inside of you.
Your heart discovered it from nothing. That is, the urgent desire to..
And you carried inside you a potential that no other angel yet has.
..SAVE
A desire that comes straight from the heart.

..SOMEONE LIKE ME SOUL RESCUE?
WHY ..
...DID YOU EVEN GIVE...
...!
...I NEVER KNEW THESE FEELINGS.
BACK THEN...
ALL I CAN DO IS FIGHT ...
You certainly were..
..unqualified to be an angel
THIS POWER
PAIN SADNESS REGRET
IF IT HURTS THIS MUCH...

THIS...
...MIGHT BE A DIRECT APPEAL TO HIM. WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
GIVE THEM ALL...
...YOUR AID.
.....
RENJI!
TAKE CARE OF THIS, KAITO.
IF ANYTHING, DON'T FORGET...
...YOU'VE SAVED PEOPLE BEFORE.


HOW TO CROSS THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN HEAVEN AND EARTH... AND OF A GREAT POWER.
...you may even be able to save those who have already fallen to Hell.
IF you try.
JANIS!
!
IT'S A LETTER ADDRESSED TO THE KING...
THEN I WANT YOU TO TEACH...
RENJI!
...US THE TRUTH ABOUT SAVING.
THIS WAS FOUND AMONGST JANIS' THINGS.
KAITO

BUT IT'S SO DULL WHEN IT'S THIS EASY.
IN THAT CASE...
...SHALL WE PLAY AGAIN?
!
HUMANS ARE SO FUNNY.
DOESN'T TAKE MORE THAN A LITTLE PUSH TO BREAK THEM.

PUNISHMENTS... GOD'S WILL...
YOUR WISH IS MY COMMAND!
JANIS!
THOSE THINGS ARE NO LONGER RELEVANT..
...DO I WANT TO SAVE THEM!
BY MY WILL ALONE...
KILL THEM ALL! LEAVE NOT ONE MAN STANDING!
I'M TELLIN' YA.
DON'T HOLD BACK!

WHETHER OR NOT I'M AN ANGEL...
...IS NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!
!
!
I WANT TO SAVE THEM!
THAT'S ALL THAT MATTERS!

HE'S MY TOY.
Yessir
SO, YOU'RE BACK FOR MORE, HUH?
...WASTING YOUR TALENTS TRYING TO BE AN ANGEL?
I DON'T REMEMBER...
...EVER BECOMING YOUR TOY!
DON'T BORE ME!
YOU STILL ..

!!
...!
.....
WHAT'S GOING ON?!
THIS POWER! IT'S DIFFERENT FROM BEFORE
VINNY!
YOUR FIGHT'S ...
.....

THERE ARE PEOPLE...
...WHOM ONLY I CAN SAVE
AND I'M NOT ABOUT IT...
FORGET THAT AGAIN!

WHAT NOW? WHEN THINGS GO THIS WAY...
...DEVILS TEND TO GO INTO HIDING FOR A WHILE.
.....
DEDAS!
WHAT ...
...HAVE I DONE?
YOU ARE THE ENEMY OF MY COMRADES!
WHA..
.....
!

!!
...WITH ME!
IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE DEVILS COULD BE DONE IN BY JUST THAT.
.....
KAI-TO!
DID YOU BEAT HIM ?!

EVERYBODY, STOP!
WHAT GOOD WILL KILLING EACH OTHER DO?!
!
JANIS...
SHE SAID THAT HERSELF!
..WANTED TO SAVE EVERYONE!
...!
AM I SEEING THINGS?
WINGS?!
IMPOS-SIBLE!
BECK!
P--
PLEASE, SAVE ME...

NO!
NOOOO!
DO YOU REALLY THINK...
...THIS IS WHAT JANIS WANTED?
WHAT'RE YOU.
...TRYING TO DO?!

JUST WHAT IS GOING ON HERE?!
WE ARE SPECIAL INSPECTORS SENT DIRECTLY BY ORDER OF THE KING.
AFTER MUCH CONSIDER-ATION, THIS WAS REPORTED TO HIS MAJESTY THE KING
AND HE BELIEVES BANISHMENT AND FORFEIT OF YOUR TERRITORY IS IN ORDER
WE HAVE RECEIVED COMPLAINTS FROM THE TOWNS-PEOPLE.
THE INHUMANE DEEDS THAT YOU HAVE CARRIED OUT THROUGH YOUR TYRANNY WILL NOT BE IGNORED.
SHE'D BEEN PLANNING TO SEND IT HERSELF WHEN THE TIME CAME.
IT WAS JANIS' LETTER.
!
THE KING ...?

MISS JANIS...
...!
LORD DEPAS!
.....
FEUDAL LORD OF FEEDA, DEPAS GUNDERT!
WON'T YOU FINISH...
...THE WORK JANIS DIED TRYING TO DO?

ALL OF THIS..
..WAS ALSO THANKS TO MISS JANIS.
JANIS.
AND I'M CONFIDENT THAT SOMEDAY...
I WILL CARRY OUT YOUR WISH.
KAITO
...I WILL FREE YOUR SOUL FROM HELL.

MISS JANIS...
SHE WAS ALWAYS THINKING OF OTHERS FIRST.
SEARCHING FOR A WAY FOR EVERYONE TO BE HAPPY SOMEDAY.
SINCE LORD DEPAS WAS BANISHED .
...THE TOWN'S IMPROVED DRASTICALLY!
AND MR BECK'S DOING A FINE JOB SERVING AS THE NEW MEDIATOR.

Bonus: I tried doing a school thing. So here is...

Soul Rescue Campus

THE FIGHT-LOVING OUT-OF-CONTROL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT: RENJI.

Sorry.

What is with that lame young man?!

Damn! A SNEAK ATTACK!

HAIR INSPECTION

RENJI!

They're gone now.

WHAT A DRAG..

I swear it's always the same thing with this guy.

As serious as ever

THE SCHOOL'S TOP GENIUS: KAITO.

THAT IS NOT THE ENTRANCE!

RENJI! RENJI!

Huh? You're going through the entrance?

You shut up. If you can walk through, so do I.

I WON'T

THIS ISN'T GOD'S WILL.

...BE NEEDING THEM ANYMORE.

?

YOU CAN HAVE THESE BACK.

I SWEAR I'LL SAVE...

...EVERY LAST SOUL.

Soul Rescue / END

STOP TRYING TO BE IN OUR GROUP ALREADY
SCREW IT. LET'S PLAY HOOKY!
LET'S WALK TO CLASS TOGETHER!
Renji!
THE DELIN-QUENT DUO: VINNY AND TOI
Keep going, Vinny!
WHAT WAS THAT?
HE'S COMING WITH ME!
CLASSMATE AND ACTUALLY ROYALTY: SHALALA
YOU ARE IN VIOLATION OF SCHOOL REGULATIONS!
WHAT DO YOU CALL THAT ON YOUR HEAD?
Is that white or silver?
I SEEM TO ATTRACT NOTHING BUT TROUBLE.
RENJI!
NOT AGAIN...
What is it this time?!
THE PRINCI-PAL
HM?
LIKE YOU'RE ONE TO TALK!
Masked protector!
NOT TO BE CONTINUED
Soul Rescue Campus! END

In the next Volume of

Renji and Kaito continue their world tour of saving souls, when they happen upon Princess Shalala again – but this time, she's being forced to wed to an island king! Can Renji intervene long enough to rescue the damsel in distress without breaking the cardinal law of Angels – falling in love?! And more deadly encounters with the devilish duo Toi and Vinny in Japan force our heroes to understand the true power of friendship!

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